From: Tony Davis
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/8/02 6:44am
Subject: Comment

Good morning

I am chief geek of my enterprise. As system administrator I have considerable freedom to do what I wish but the requirement to relate to Microsoft using clients, who produce for example .doc files, means that we have to own use Microsoft products. I have asked for information about file structures but am told it is proprietary information.

For some of my clients, we go to considerable lengths to allow them to reproduce material in non Microsoft format. Why? The suggestion is that Microsoft will move to annual licensing. Should they do that and, for whatever reason, my client choose not to continue to purchase these licences all their intellectual property held in Microsoft proprietary file formats will become inaccessible to them. Please require Microsoft to release the structure of their data forms so that users of other software may import their files.

Please insist that Microsoft take no action which will deny any user of their software continuing free access to that user's intellectual property.

Tony Davis

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